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Governor



Economic Opportunity

Jack Lavin, Director



About the Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity

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About The Department

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Business Development

DCEO's Bureau of Business Development administers a wide array of programs and services designed to help Illinois businesses thrive in today's economy. We offer expansion incentives, technology support services, access to capital, global marketing expertise, and job training and education for workers.

Office of Coal Development

Coal not only plays a vital role as an energy source, but the industries involved in mining, transportation and use of Illinois coal provide thousands of jobs for Illinoisans and economic stability to many communities across the state.

Community Development

The Bureau of Community Development provides a wide range of programs designed to assist local governments with management and infrastructure needs and to create more economic opportunity for low-income citizens.

Energy & Recycling

The Bureau of Energy and Recycling provides Illinois citizens and businesses technical advice, financial assistance and research support to develop promising technologies in sustainable energy production and utilization, as well as recycling and waste reduction. These sustainable technologies help keep energy and commodity dollars in the local economy and support job creation and economic development in Illinois. These programs demonstrate that economic development, sustainable energy, recycling and environmental protection go hand in hand.

Illinois Entrepreneurship Network

DCEO is providing, for the first time, a formalized structure for coordinated services to small businesses and entrepreneurs throughout the state: the Illinois



Department of Commerce & Economic Development

Entrepreneurship Network (IEN). Further, DCEO has a truly statewide network, where the resources in one area (e.g., venture capital in the Chicago area) can be coordinated to the benefit of network partners throughout the state. There are varying levels of expertise and access to services in the various regions, and it ties these all together to equalize this expertise and access through the following IEN partners: Entrepreneurship Centers, Small Business Development Centers, Procurement Technical Assistance Centers, International Trade Centers, NAFTA Opportunity Centers, Manufacturing Extension Centers and Illinois Technology Enterprise Centers. Visit www.ienconnect.com or call 1-800-252-2923.

Illinois Film Office

The Illinois Film Office helps promote and facilitate the production of feature films, television series, special movies, commercials, corporate and industrial films, documentaries, music videos and still photography in Illinois. Office staff provides valuable technical assistance to film and television production companies by scouting locations, finding production and back-up services and working with local governments, community groups and individuals to foster cooperation and facilitate film production in Illinois.

Technology & Industrial Competitiveness

DCEO is committed to helping Illinois businesses invest in and develop state-of-the-art technologies. The Bureau of Technology and Industrial Competitiveness helps Illinois businesses, entrepreneurs and citizens to succeed in a changing economy.

Bureau of Tourism

The Bureau of Tourism works closely with the state's network of Local Convention and Visitors Bureaus and Regional Tourism Development Offices, funds grant programs to help market Illinois destinations, and



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administers the state's innovative tourism advertising and promotional efforts. The Local Tourism Division helps local entities promote business and leisure travel. The Marketing/Advertising Division combines research-based, integrated marketing efforts with technology to promote travel to and within Illinois.

Office of Trade & Investment

OTI offers a variety of export development assistance programs to help Illinois companies identify new markets and locate distribution channels for their products and services abroad, including trade missions to targeted foreign markets. Trade missions provide small and medium-sized companies in Illinois with an avenue to export their products and services. OTI, and its trade offices around the world, also work to attract essential Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) to Illinois through strategic promotional activities, including FDI seminars overseas and reverse trade missions domestically.

Workforce Development

The Bureau of Workforce Development is committed to encouraging statewide economic development by cultivating a well-trained workforce. Through an array of services, the Bureau works with youth, adults and dislocated workers to provide individuals with employability skills assessment, training as appropriate, as well as follow-up services leading to employment or retention in identified sectors of growing occupational demand.

Homeland Security

DCEO's Homeland Security Market Development Bureau is focused on supporting businesses engaged in the homeland security industry, which cuts across various industries, including food safety and security, information technology and electronic communications, advanced manufacturing, biotechnology and public health.

The Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity seeks to improve Illinois' competitiveness in the global economy. DCEO provides a variety of economic development programs, services, initiatives, and information designed to build growing, prosperous industries, high quality jobs and world-class communities.

Bureaus of The Illinois Department of Commerce & Economic Opportunity

- Business Development
- Office of Coal Development
- Community Development
- Energy & Recycling
- Entrepreneurship and Small Business
- Illinois Entrepreneurship Network
- Illinois Film Office
- Technology & Industrial Competitiveness
- Bureau of Tourism
- Office of Trade & Investment
- Workforce Development
- Homeland Security

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For more information on any DCEO bureau or services available, please visit the DCEO website at www.illinoisbiz.biz



Rod R. Blagojevich
Governor

Jack Lavin has served as Governor Rod R. Blagojevich's Director of the Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity for more than four years. During this time, he has led the transformation of the agency into an organization geared to meet the challenges of the 21st Century economy.



Jack Lavin
Director, DCEO

Director Lavin has twenty-one years of public and private sector experience and a record of job creation and financial management in both the business world and in Illinois state government.

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